

NEED OF NEW PRISON

PLANS PRESENTED FOR AN ADDITION TO THE PENITENTIARY.

CHANGE IN MANAGEMENT SUGGESTED.

Plan for an Enlarged Board, with Power to Appoint the Officers of the Institutions—Earnings to Be Used to Pay for Buildings.

The Senate Committee on Public Institutions and Education and the House Committee on Asylum and Prisons held a joint meeting yesterday morning, at which matters connected with the management of the penitentiary and improvements there were discussed at some length. As a result of the meeting, a sub-committee was appointed to further consider these matters, and report desirable legislation.

Dr. B. L. Winstan presided and Messrs. Frank T. Glasgow and W. D. Chesterman, of the Board of Directors of the penitentiary; Superintendent B. W. Lynn, and Architect W. C. West appeared before the body, with reference to the various phases of the subject under consideration.

PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENTS.
Mr. Glasgow, president of the board, presented a plan showing the location and general outline of two buildings, the one comprising a modern prison of 304 cells, to be occupied by two convicts

and Massachusetts laws, and would be glad to furnish the information to a sub-committee.

POWERS OF THE DIRECTORS.

It appeared from the statement of Mr. Chesterman that each member of the board receives \$100 per annum; that the body has no patronage to dispense, but may recommend to the Governor for his appointment the matron and two clerks. The board renewed its recommendation of two years ago, that its members be elected, that it be given power to elect all officers as proposed in the bill upon which the sub-committee will report.

Superintendent Lynn replied to a number of questions regarding the institution, and in the course of the proceedings, Delegate Wilson stated that he and others had recently seen the prisoners fed, and found the fare ample and good.

WITH A SUB-COMMITTEE.
The committee seemed impressed with the statements made before them, talked the matter over at length, listened to the reading of the petition of the Presbyterian ministers urging the accommodations of the prison be increased, and it was the sense of the joint body that the subject be left in the hands of a sub-committee, who will consider the advisability of reporting a bill making a change in the management of the penitentiary, so that nine directors, three of whom shall be from Richmond, shall constitute an Executive Committee, which shall have the appointment of the superintendent and all officers. There seems to be a strong sentiment in the committee as well as among legislators generally, to remove the penitentiary from the sphere of politics, which it is claimed would be effected by a bill drafted on these lines.

THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY BILL.

Consideration of This Important Matter.

The Committee on Courts of Justice

stood as to the bill. The measure was passed by, as stated above.

A COMPANY OF EX-CONFEDERATES

Designed to Suppress Capital Police and Penitentiary Guards. There will be introduced in the House in a few days a bill which will be of great interest to ex-Confederate soldiers, as well as Virginians generally. It will provide that the duties at present performed by the Capitol police and the penitentiary guards be performed by a military company composed of ex-Confederate soldiers.

The idea originated with the Eusebia Villa Camp of Confederate Veterans, and Captain J. W. Talley, commander of that camp, is in the city for the purpose of interesting the legislators in the measure. Several prominent ex-Confederates of this city are supporting the scheme, and Captain Talley says he has little doubt of its being acted upon favorably by the Legislature.

Captain Talley says that if the company is organized, and composed of ex-Confederates, the work now performed by the penitentiary guards and the Capitol police will be discharged at the same cost as at present, and at the same time the State will afford relief to a class of citizens which it has always been its policy to relieve to every extent possible. He asserts that the idea is not a new one as a company of soldiers discharged these duties in ante-bellum days, with satisfaction to the people and the State. Captain Talley will ask the officials. Captain Talley will ask the co-operation of the camps of Confederate veterans throughout the State, and feels sure of obtaining it.

THE MARYLAND BOUNDARY.

Senator Mason has not pressed his resolution recently introduced in the Senate, providing for the appointment of

SANTA GETS THEM.

COMES FOR HIS LETTERS AND TAKES THEM HOME WITH HIM.

WILL VISIT ALL THE CHILDREN.

He Acknowledges Receipt of the Letters Received Up to Thursday—The Others Are Forwarded to Him. He Is Getting His Toys Ready.

The Dispatch has to apologize to the children for not having been able to publish all the letters that came from them in Santa Claus's mail. Santa came to the office, however, and read all of them through, and promised to attend to the wants of the children whom he loves so dearly. He returned to his home, near the North Pole, with his sleigh filled with the letters, and, together with Mrs. Santa, he expects again to read them all over carefully.

The children's friend made out a list of those whose letters were received at this office before Thursday, when he said he must close his mail-bag, and this list is published this morning at his request, he being desirous of acknowledging the receipt of the letters. A large number of letters came for him after he had departed, and these were sent to him yesterday. He will get them to-day, but he will not have time to acknowledge their receipt, as he will be so busy packing up

Smart, Laura, Pearl, and Birdie Sadler, Della Ross Stoval, Willie and Annie Schuster, Florence Scott Smith, Alice and Oler Shedd, John Hazlewood Stringer, Sadie and Joseph Charles Schell, Whitney Bland Sutton, Clifton Earl Osterling Starke, Fannie Richards, Maude Sullivan, Janie Ruffin Sims, and Janita Shaw.

Mabel A. Thompson, Minnie Louise Thompson, Ethelene Tiller, Edward R. Trainum, Alma L. Trower, Ruth Toler, Louise Laube, Helen W. and Mary V. Tyler, Wellford Tyler, Albert Temple, Mac. Thatcher, Eva Clarke Temple, Louise Tallman, Drury Thompson, Eula C. Junius Lloyd, and Charles S. Taylor, Carrie A. Tyler, Alice Watkins Taylor, Bertha Tisdale, and Julia Traylor.

Ruth and Eugene Valentine.

Grace Norman, Anne, Hugh, and Audrey Walton, Ruby Wade, William Warren Walther, Enis Pearl Wilson, G. Nelly Womble, Charles Watkins, Ruby Wharton, James L. Woodson, Joseph Wharton, Bernard Welsman, Ruby West, Johnnie West, Louise, Nellie, and Gray Wakfield, William H. Solon B., and Clifton Woodfin, Willard Josephine Wright, Bessie Waldrop, Jimmie Whitfield, Manchester Louise and Marie White, Barton Heights; Frank Worsham, and Bessie Wright.

Minter L. Yarbrough, Frank Yarbrough, Jr.

SICK CHILDREN WAIT FOR SANTA.

The enclosed letter was read at the weekly meeting of the Retreat for the Sick, and it is needless to say many of the demands were at once provided for by the friends of the institution and of these little sufferers may feel inclined to supply some of the articles desired; in which case they may receive all information at the "Retreat," as to what is yet required, so that there may be no more duplicates than the list calls for. No doubt some ingenious person will donate the "funeral," while it is reasonable to suppose that at a hospital a "little dead man" may be readily procured.

WANTS OF THE LITTLE CHILDREN

IN THE WARD.

Mary Timley—Candy, and saucer, doll, with blue dress, puzzle, and doll furniture.

Mary Toler—Doll, with red dress, tea-set, toy stove, and picture-book.

Kent Sessums—Furniture, with a little dead man in the house, toy train, marbles, and a ball.

Frank Demester—Toy dog, train, ball, toy watch, and building blocks.

Olivia Henning—Tea-set, doll, with pink dress, saucer, and a game.

Herbert Patram—Toy pistol, John, Noah's Ark, and toy watch.

John Creckenberger—Candy dog, white boy doll, Santa Claus, and a horse and wagon.

Scissors and paper dolls for all to cut.

REINDER FOR THE GOVERNMENT

To Transport Supplies to the Klondike Miners.

WASHINGTON, December 20.—Secretary Alger to-day cabled to William A. Kjellman, the chief government reindeer herdsman, who is now in Alten, Norway, to inform the War Department immediately how soon 600 reindeer can be shipped to this country. These are wanted for use as draught animals in getting supplies to the miners in the Klondike region. It is said that they must be transferred at New York to the railroads, and in that manner carried across the Continent, and again by sea from the Pacific coast up to Dyea or such other point as may be selected as the base of operations by the relief expeditions.

Secretary Alger has determined, after advising with the medical officers of the War Department, and persons who have had much experience in Arctic regions, to make large use of condensed food preparations. It is not only the meats taken by the most concentrated form, but particular efforts are making to secure condensed preparations of vegetables, such as potatoes and onions.

Secretary Alger has begun an inquiry to ascertain the amount of condensed stores available for purchase by the government, and the prices demanded for them. The State Department has already asked the British Government to request from the Canadian Government permission to pass these stores through the territory of the latter.

It is not anticipated that any objection will be made to granting the request, nor to the accompanying request that will be made for permission for our soldiers to pass over Canadian territory as guards for the expedition. The order of the War Department will be required for the suspension of duties.

FIRE IN BALTIMORE.

Establishment of Crook, Horner & Co. Partially Destroyed.

BALTIMORE, December 20.—The extensive establishment of Crook, Horner & Co., dealers in plumbers', machinists', and millers' supplies, at the corner of Howard and Saratoga streets, this city, was partially destroyed by fire to-day, entailing a loss of about \$50,000 to stock and building. The fire was discovered on the top floor of the seven-story building at about 5 o'clock, and is supposed to have been started by a match carelessly thrown in a lot of cotton waste by an employee of the firm. By the time the fire department reached the scene the flames had spread to the fifth floor, and they finally reached the roof.

All the building is completely gutted. On one floor were about 400 tons of heavy machinery, but, fortunately, the fire was extinguished in time to save this and everything underneath it from destruction.

On one of the burned floors were about \$50,000 worth of patterns, which cannot be replaced. Beside this the firm lost about \$5,000 on stock, fully covered by insurance.

The building, which belongs to the Rieman estate, was damaged to the extent of \$25,000, also covered by insurance.

FIERCE GALE IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

Great Damage to Fishing Establishments and Vessels.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., December 20.—A terrible gale swept this island yesterday, and did immense damage to fishing establishments and vessels at all the coast settlements. Twelve schooners were ashore in Green Bay and became totally wrecked, and several others were badly damaged in collisions.

It is feared that the fleet from Gloucester and the herring fleet now loading in Florida Bay have been seriously buffeted by the storm.

Trade-Unionists Must Quit Militia.

CHICAGO, December 20.—The Times-Herald says: Trade-unionists are required by Chicago Federation of Labor to leave the National Guard at once. This was the unanimous decision reached by the delegates at their regular weekly meeting.

It was said without contradiction that a union man could not consistently serve in the militia and at the same time be entitled to shoot down fellow-trade-unionists who might be on strike for the betterment of their economic condition. So any trade-unionist who is a member of the Illinois National Guard will be required to secure a discharge at once.

The Pope in Good Health.

NEW YORK, December 20.—Bishop Emard, of Valleyfield, province of Quebec, who arrived here on the Normandy from Havre to-day, described his visit to Pope Leo. "The Pope is in excellent health," he said. "I had an audience of an hour and ten minutes with him, and his vivacity was as keen as ever. He asked questions incessantly. His Holiness seems to know everybody everywhere. He is interested in the events of the world with avidity."

BRING IN REVENUE.

MR. SAUNDERS'S MEASURE DESIGNED TO EFFECT THIS END.

WILL AFFECT BIG CORPORATIONS.

A Board of Assessors and Appraisers to Assess the Property of Telephone, Telegraph, and Express Companies—What the Act Provides.

Hon. E. W. Saunders has introduced a measure in the House that will revolutionize the methods of assessing the property of telephone, telegraph, and express companies, and will bring upon the tax-lists a large amount of property which now evades assessment.

The Board of Assessors and Appraisers created by this act will not be confined to assessing the visible tangible property of these companies, but will be enabled to reach and assess that portion of the entire capital which may be considered as localized in this State.

Mr. Saunders, in speaking of the measure, said: "As has been declared by the Supreme Court of the United States, whatever value property has for the purposes of sale it has for taxation, and if, as the results of the use of tangible property in connection with its franchise, a company creates a valuable intangible property, then that property is a legitimate subject of taxation, and should be reached. The object of my bill is to reach this property, and as the principle of my measure has been sustained in the courts, it appeals with force to the General Assembly for adoption."

The measure, as a revenue-getter, promises to be a success, since it will decidedly increase the amount of taxed property in the Commonwealth.

The bill provides that any person or persons, joint stock association or corporation, engaged in the business of conveying to, from, or through this State, or any part thereof, money, packages, gold, silver, plate, or other articles by express, not including the ordinary lines of transportation or merchandise and property in this State, shall be deemed to be an express company. Any person or persons, joint stock association, or corporation, wherever organized or incorporated, engaged in the business of transmitting to, from, through, or in this State telegraph messages, shall be deemed to be a telegraph company. Any person or persons, joint stock association, or corporation, wherever organized or incorporated, engaged in the business of transmitting to, from, through, or in this State telephone messages, shall be held to be a telephone company.

Every such company doing business in this State shall, annually, on or before the first day of May, under oath, make and file with the Auditor of Public Accounts a statement in such form as the State Auditor may prescribe, containing the following information: The name of the company, its nature, and location of its principal office; the names and post-office addresses of the officers; the number of shares of stock in the company, the par value and market value thereof; or, if there be no market value, the actual value of its shares of stock as of February 1st; a detailed statement of the real estate owned by the company in this State, as assessed, and the value thereof as assessed for taxation; a full and correct inventory of the personal property, including moneys and credits owned by the company in Virginia on February 1st, where situated, and the value thereof; total value of the real estate owned by the company in this State, and the value of the real estate owned by the company in other States; the total value of the personal property owned by the company and situated outside of Virginia.

HOW THEY WILL BE TAXED.

In the case of telegraph and telephone companies, the whole length of their lines, and the length of so much of their lines as is without and is within the State of Virginia, is required to be given, which lines shall include what are selected under lease or otherwise; also, the miles under lease or otherwise, in each county, town, and school district in the State. In the case of telegraph and express companies, the entire gross receipts of the company from whatever source derived for the year ending January 31st, of business wherever done, shall be given.

In the case of telegraph and express companies, the gross receipts for the year ending January 31st, from whatever source derived, of each office within the State of Virginia, giving the location by school district of each office, and the total gross receipts of the company for each year in Virginia. In the case of express companies, the whole length of the lines of rail and water routes over which the company did business on the 1st day of May, the length of so much of said lines, whether land or water, as is without and is within the State, and transportation, and the miles in Virginia, and showing what proportion thereof is in each county, city, town, and school district thereof.

Blanks for making the different statements shall be prepared, and on application, furnished any company by the Auditor of Public Accounts, the Governor, and the Treasurer of the Commonwealth shall constitute a board to be known as the State Board of Appraisers and Assessors, of which each of the several officers shall be an ex-officio member. In the absence or inability of the president, the members shall appoint one of their number president pro tempore, and the two acting together may exercise the entire powers given by this act to the full board.

WATCH ON THE DAUNTLESS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 20.—The Treasury Department has notified the Collector of Customs at Key West to keep a watch on the tug Dauntless, which is suspected of smuggling contraband goods. The information was furnished by the Danish Minister, who reported that the Dauntless had in tow a number of barges or lighters. While there was nothing apparently unlawful in the movements of the tug, the Minister said he had been told by a reliable source that the tug was carrying a cargo of contraband goods. In view of her previous achievements in that line, a strict watch on her movements was ordered.

Boy Paroled Sentenced.

LOUISVILLE, KY., December 20.—A boy sentenced to the Eastern Reformatory for a term of 18 months for a crime committed on a Sunday, was paroled yesterday. The boy, named John, was 18 years old, and was paroled on condition that he should remain in the reformatory for a term of 18 months. The boy was paroled on condition that he should remain in the reformatory for a term of 18 months.

Heffernan Easy for Ryan.

BUFFALO, N. Y., December 20.—"Burr Heffernan," who was sentenced to the State Prison for a term of 18 months for a crime committed on a Sunday, was paroled yesterday. The boy, named John, was 18 years old, and was paroled on condition that he should remain in the reformatory for a term of 18 months. The boy was paroled on condition that he should remain in the reformatory for a term of 18 months.

Postmasters for North Carolina.

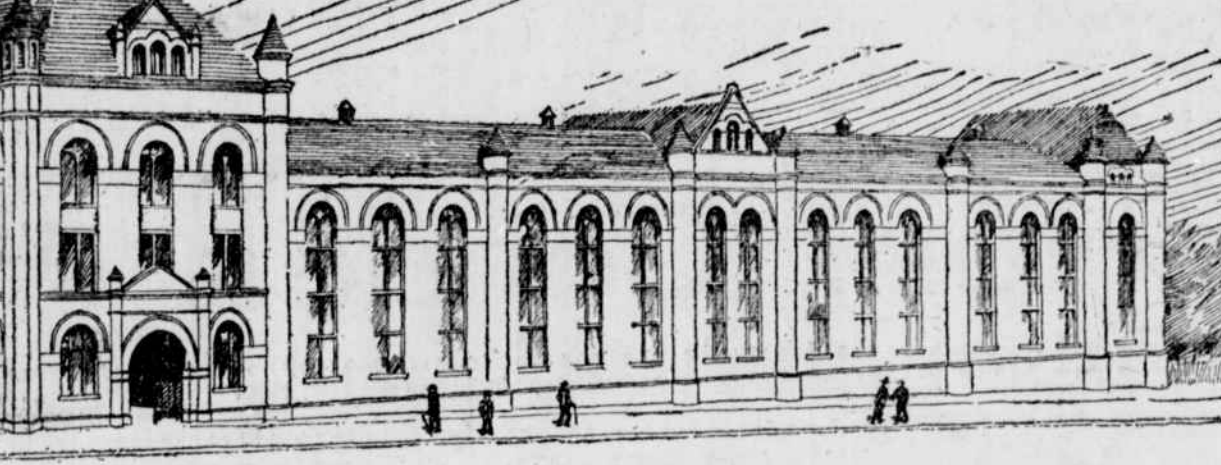
WASHINGTON, December 20.—The following have been appointed: North Carolina—Chandler, E. W. Chandler; Greenville, J. M. Putnam; Kinston, E. D. Putnam; Raleigh, E. D. Putnam; Salisbury, E. D. Putnam; and Wilmington, E. D. Putnam.

Cold Weather in Canada.

TORONTO, ONT., December 20.—From all parts of the Province come reports of severe cold weather. The thermometer registered 20 degrees below zero, and at Mattawan it was 25. Here it went to 4 below.

The Record in Knuck-Out.

LYNN, MASS., December 20.—What is claimed to be the record in knock-outs was made to-night at the Hoffman, when Mike Higgins, of this city, beat Tom Morris, of Lynn, in the eighth round. The previous record was 6 rounds.



PLAN FOR NEW PRISON AND ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT THE PENITENTIARY.

each, and the other a two-story building, about 40 by 200 feet, containing kitchen, laundry, boiler-room, storerooms, &c., on first floor, and a room on the second floor large enough to seat all the convicts at meals, and to be used also as a chapel for religious services. The prison now proposed would take one half of the convicts from the old cells and relieve them to that extent. The greater number of cells were less than 6 feet wide by 14 to 15 feet long, in which were kept an average of 15 convicts each. The prison now proposed would take one half of the convicts from the old cells and relieve them to that extent. The greater number of cells were less than 6 feet wide by 14 to 15 feet long, in which were kept an average of 15 convicts each. The prison now proposed would take one half of the convicts from the old cells and relieve them to that extent.

The plan shows an administration building three stories high about 30x40 feet, attached to the prison building at its western end. The first floor contains offices, armory, and storerooms; the second story rooms for the guards, and the third story contains a hospital of ample dimensions to be divided into as many wards as the surgeon may recommend. The present hospital has but one ward for white and colored; there is no provision for separating contagious or infectious diseases, and the dying convict is surrounded by his sick fellow-convicts, who witness his death and the removal of the dead body to the morgue.

The two-story building shown in the plan will provide ample accommodation for cooking, laundry, boiler-room, &c., and a dining-room in which all the convicts can be seated. At present the convicts take their meals to the rooms, and the food is served by the warden's assistants. The present kitchen and laundry-rooms are underground, and entirely unfit for the purpose.

WHAT IT WOULD COST.

Mr. Glasgow further explained that the board had been considering the cost of the whole, and believed that it would not exceed \$150,000, with the use of convict labor, as far as practicable. It was thought at first that the amount might be provided by an issue of bonds, but the case of the University of Virginia, but there was found a constitutional objection to this, and it was finally concluded that if the earnings of the penitentiary were applied to the construction, with an appropriation by the Legislature of \$5,000 per annum toward the cost of the building, it would be sufficient to meet the cost of the building, and the buildings might be completed in two years.

DISCUSS ANTI-TRADING-STAMP BILL.

Mr. Coleman, of Portsmouth, strongly advocates the investigation of the charges against Judge Turnbull, and does not oppose them as reported. He thinks Judge Turnbull should be given every opportunity to clear himself of the charges, and is confident of his ability to do so.

PERSONALS AND BRIEFS.

Dr. Hunter McGuire has been confined to his room for some days with an acute attack of gout. He is recovering now, however.

Misses Kate and Rosa Cardozo, of Lunenburg Courthouse, are visiting the family of Mr. W. Emmett Cardozo, No. 515 north Eleventh street, city.

Sunday's New York Herald, on a page devoted to "Prospective Brides," prints an excellent picture of Miss Bessie Martin, of this city, who is soon to wed a resident of the metropolis.

Frank Homewood, a native of England, passed through Richmond yesterday on foot. He is walking from Norfolk to Philadelphia for a winter of study, and expects to be in the Quaker City Christmas-day.

Potomac Lodge of Masons, of Washington, has presented Richmond-Randolph Lodge, No. 19, of this city, with a handsome mounted photograph of the building by George Washington in laying the corner-stone of the Capitol building at Washington.

Richmonders in New York.

NEW YORK, December 20.—(Special.)—W. Ryan, Astor; J. T. Worth, Marlborough; J. B. Douglass and wife, Holland; J. W. Hopkins, Grand.

met yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock in the Hall of the House of Delegates to consider Mr. Reddy's "employers' liability bill," but the measure, after some little discussion, was passed by and made a special order for January 6th.

Mr. Saunders was in the chair, and Mr. W. A. Glasgow, of Roanoke, said that he was considerably interested in the bill, and as he had not been able to hold a conference with the gentlemen represented by him, he asked the committee to pass the measure by until after the holidays. Mr. Judge Williams, of Orange, also asked that the bill be passed by, as it had not yet been printed.

Mr. Reddy said that under the rules the bill could not be printed until it had been acted upon by the committee. He was opposed to the measure being passed by. He thought no man could come before the committee with less grace than Mr. Glasgow and ask for a continuance of the matter, as a bill of similar character had been introduced some sessions before, and the gentleman from Roanoke had fully discussed it before the committee. Mr. Cullen, superintendent of the Richmond Locomotive-Works, professed himself in entire ignorance of the provisions of the bill, and desired that its consideration be postponed.

Mr. Diggs moved that the bill be taken up, and, if possible, acted upon to the usual order. Those opposed to the measure would have ample time to fight it when it came before the Senate committee. He thought the opposition acknowledged that they had a bad case when they appeared with such a hostile array of legal talent, and when the other side was not represented. Mr. Glasgow informed him that Mr. C. V. Meredith was present to represent the employees.

Mr. Saunders thought the committee was perfectly competent to hear the argument in the matter, even if the bill was not printed. They could investigate later. A motion was made that each side be allowed thirty minutes to discuss the measure. Mr. Montague said that as far as he was concerned he was not ready to make any argument. Mr. Reddy proposed that the committee rise and convene to-day at 3:30 o'clock, when he said he should be heard, when the argument closed. Messrs. Bailey and Winbourne both favored postponement.

Mr. Embrey moved that the bill be made a special order for Thursday evening, January 6th, at 8 o'clock, that each member be furnished with a printed copy of the measure, and that the bill be taken up and half be allowed each side for discussion. This was adopted.

Mr. C. V. Meredith was then introduced to the body and explained the provisions of the measure. He said he was present, not as an enemy, but as a friend, and not at the solicitation of any one, but because he found that the present law worked an injustice. The bill was drafted very similar to that of the English act.

After Mr. Meredith's very forcible remarks, in which he showed that the law as at present worked was a great injury to a man's dog than his protection-servant, the committee adjourned.

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